UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

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TODAY and TOMORROW

Bleak Prospect For Anglo-Americans

THE German counter-thrust along the Belgium-Luxembourg frontier continues with increasing momentum. The Anglo-American headquarters term the German drive as an "All-out offensive designed to destroy the Allies in the West, its immediate objective being the line of the Meuse river from the fortress city of Metz to the other fortress cities of Namur and Dinan. The Germans have during the last twelve days gained 2,000 square miles of Luxembourg and Belgium and advanced 58 miles." The Anglo-American commentators attribute the success the Germans are achieving, to superior German command, outstanding German morale and superior German tanks.

According to Hanson Baldwin, the well known Military commentator. the reason for the Anglo-American supply and replacement and other military difficulties today is the complete miscalculation about the length of the war in Europe and under-estimation of the amounts of certain types of equipment needed for that fighting.

Admitting that German resistance has taken a staggering toll of the anti-Axis troops, Hanson Baldwin points out that Britain is combing the army, air force and navy and calling up more of her scanty reserves of manpower to provide replacements for her armies in the field. The United States has been similarly compelled, he says, to increase its draft call in January and February, and may probably have to maintain it at a high rate for some time to come.

The furious fighting on the Western front, particularly the German counter-offensive, has cost the Anglo-Americans appalling losses. Baldwin is of the opinion that the Anglo-American future attempts to break through the Rhine westward position will certainly cost Britain and America far more heavily than any operations heretofore. Considering American casualties in Italy, and the increasing casualties in the Pacific and non-battle casualties arising from illness and death from disease or accidents, American war losses on the entire front may well average in the first months of 1945, 100,000 to 120,000 men monthly. Evidently the coming year holds out nothing but a bleak prospect for Uncle Sam and his cousin John Bull.

German Military Might Grossly Underestimated

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Reich Assault Threatens Enemy War Strategy, Says Hanson Baldwin

Lisbon, Dec. 27 (Domei)—Hanson W. Baldwin, well-known New York Times military commentator, commenting on the latest sensational German counter-thrust along the Belgo-Luxembourg frontier, today frankly admitted that the formidable German assault threatens seriously to complicate the anti-Axis supply and replacement difficulties, according to a New York dispatch.

The reason for anti-Axis supply and replacement and other military difficulties today is the complete miscalculation about the length of the war in Europe and underestimation of the amounts of certain types of equipment needed for that fighting, Baldwin stated.

Admitting that German resistance has taken a staggering toll of anti-Axis troops, the commentator pointed out that Britain is combing the army, air force and navy and calling up more of her scanty reserves of manpower to provide replacements for her armies in the field.

The United States similarly, he said, has been compelled to increase its draft call in January and February and probably will have to maintain it at a high rate for some time to come.

Basically the personnel problem is the problem of finding sufficient infantry and armoured force replacements without impairing the efficiency of other arms and services of the Army, Baldwin declared. The need for more combat troops in the European theatre is clearly demonstrated by our inability to relieve our divisions at the front, and now by the recent German counter-offensive.

The commentator said the furious fighting on the Western Front in December, particularly the German counter-offensive, has cost the Anglo-Americans serious losses, and our future attempts to break through the Rhine westward will certainly cost us far more heavily than any operations.

Baldwin went on to stress, "We must figure on a battle casualty rate in Western Europe alone of perhaps 100,000 killed, captured, wounded or missing for December and perhaps an average of 60,000 to 80,000 men monthly thereafter.

Considering American casualties in Italy, increasing casualties in the Pacific and non-battle casualties arising from illness and death from disease or accidents, American war losses on the entire front "may well average in the first months of 1945, 100,000 to 120,000 men monthly," Baldwin said.

JOHORE & PERAK INDIANS ACCORD WARM WELCOME TO NETAJI ON MALAI TOUR

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All-Out Help & Sacrifice Pledged Money Pouring In For Freedom War

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An enthusiastic welcome was accorded to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, by Johore Indians on his recent visit there.

Netaji first visited Johore Bahru on the morning of the 20th instant where he was presented with a purse of $414,130, made up of contributions from Johore Bahru $130,000, Batu Pahat $60,000,

Muar $133,880, Tangkak $5,250, Segamat $30,000, Labis $5,000 and Kluang $50,000.

At the mass meetings held at Johore Bahru, Kluang, Batu Pahat and Muar record crowds of Indians and prominent Nippon officials and leaders of the Malai and Chinese communities were present. The meeting at Johore Bahru was also attended by H.E. the Governor of Johore.

At all these places Netaji addressed the gathering in Hindustani stressing on the audience the necessity for continuing their sustained effort to supply the independence movement with men, money and materials until the end of their struggle.

In addition to purses, a pair of gold bangles by Mrs. Subramania Iyer, of Kluang, a miniature silver sword by Sri Doraisamy Pathar, of Rengam, a silver cup by the youths of Muar, a gold ring with Gandhiji's portrait in porcelain, by Sri K. L. Muttiah, of Muar, were presented to Netaji.

Ipoh, December 27 (Domei)—Responding to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's call for maximum support for the fight for India's freedom, Indian patriots in Perak presented a $500,000 purse to their beloved leader on the occasion of his second visit to the State. They also held a mammoth rally on the Ipoh padang to welcome their leader.

Calling on Indians to stake their all in the decisive stage of their struggle for independence, Netaji Bose asked: "When our soldiers are prepared to shed their blood on the battlefield why can't you on the home front make your utmost sacrifices in money and materials?"

The rally concluded in a dramatic manner when the whole gathering rose to a man amidst ringing cries of "Jai Hind", when Netaji Bose asked those who were determined to fight the enemy to the finish to stand up.

Taiping, Dec. 26 (Domei)—Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, called on the Nippon Commander here today to discuss various important questions.

In the afternoon he addressed a mass meeting held by some 1,000 local Indian residents, reaffirming that, with their support, the eventual establishment of Indian independence and freedom for Indians can be assured.

SEVEN FOE VESSELS SUNK IN WATERS OFF SAN JOSE

Tokyo, Dec. 28 (Domei)—Nippon surface units in a concerted assault against the enemy airfield at Mindoro Island and warcraft and transports off San Jose on the night of Dec. 26, sank four transports, one torpedoboat, and two small boats, and inflicted heavy damage to the enemy airfield and munition and provision dumps, Dai Honyei announced at 3 p.m. today.

The announcement follows:

"Firstly, our surface units on the night of Dec. 26 penetrated into waters off San [illegible] doro Island, and brushing aside interception by enemy aircraft assaulted four enemy transports and several torpedoboats near the point of anchorage, sinking all the transports, one torpedoboat, and two small boats. Our surface units also bombarded the enemy airfield and munition and provision dumps and turned this area into a sea of flames.

"Secondly, our air force in concert with our surface unit bombed the enemy airfield and blasted and set ablaze several [illegible] besides sinking four enemy torpedoboats.

"Thirdly, one of our destroyers was heavily damaged in this mission."

Tokyo, Dec. 28 (Domei)—Dai Honyei announced this afternoon that the Nippon air force on the night of Dec. 26 raided the enemy airfield at Saipan Island and caused conflagrations and explosions to start at eight points.

Unfavourable War News Shakes U.S. Confidence

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Panic Among Americans Spreading; Government Tightens Censorship

Lisbon, Dec. 27 (Domei)—American confidence that the war will speedily be won has seriously been shaken by the latest unfavourable developments on the Western Front, coupled with the news that American forces in the Pacific are making extremely costly sacrifices, and a feeling of uneasiness and gloom noticeably is beginning to spread among the rank and file of the American people, according to dispatches received here.

Part of the uneasiness is said to be attributable to the American Government's policy of withholding true facts about the war situation

Although strict censorship prevails, it is becoming more and more apparent to the American people that their forces are incurring terrific punishment on the fighting fronts. Thousands of Americans have watched their war vessels return to port heavily damaged or laden with a multitude of wounded personnel; and their reports have spread a feeling of growing pessimism.

More and more families are anxiously reading the lengthening casualty lists in the newspapers, fearful that they may discover the names of their loved ones among the killed, wounded or missing, American dispatches said.

American Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal, today stated at his press conference that the United States authorities are continuing to pursue the policy of withholding announcements concerning the losses suffered by the United States Navy in battles in the Pacific theatre, according to a Washington dispatch. He claimed that secrecy was necessary owing to military reasons.

Lisbon, Dec. 26 (Domei)—A Saipan dispatch belatedly revealed that Colonel Nyron Elias Brugge, Deputy Commander for operations and training of the 25th Bomber Command, and Colonel Richard Thomas King (Jr.), Commanding Officer of a super-fortress unit, failed to return from the December 3 B-29 raid on Tokyo.

Nippon Bombers Blast San Juan Landing Point

A Nippon Base in the Philippines, Dec. 28 (Domei)—The Nippon air force in the Philippines on Dec. 26, defying a thick fog, carried out an effective night raid against the enemy landing point at San Juan, north Palompon, Leyte Island.

Indian And Burmese Villagers Capture B-29 Crew Members

Rangoon, Dec. 28 (Domei)—It is now disclosed that through the co-operation of Indian and Burmese people, the crew members of five B-29's shot down on December 14 by Nippon anti-aircraft units, were captured around the Rangoon area when they bailed out.

Certain of the enemy fliers near the town of Dala were captured immediately by the head of the village Civil Defence Corps with the co-operation of a group of residents who rushed to the scene upon seeing enemy crew members parachute down. Finding they were cornered, the enemy fliers surrendered without resistance.

In another district the village headman led some villagers in the capture of the enemy crew, while in the Syriam district a number of enemy fliers were handed over to the Nippon army authorities. A committee member of the East Asia Youth League single-handedly captured an enemy airman about to enter a farmer's home.

U-Boats Strike Again At Enemy Shipping

Berlin, Dec. 27 (Domei)—In a fresh wave of raids against Anglo-American shipping German U-boats have sunk eight additional anti-Axis destroyers and escort vessels, besides sinking or damaging four transports, the German News Agency revealed today.

Two heavily-laden transports, the Agency said, were sunk in spite of escort defence, another was terpedoed, and a 14,000-ton ship is believed to have gone down after being badly hit by several torpedoes.

Gifts To Prisoners Of War And Internees

Tokyo, Dec. 28 (Domei)—It is authoritatively learned that the Nippon steamer Hoshi Maru will sail from Kobe on January 4 for China, carrying the first instalment of comfort packages for United States war prisoners and internees. These packages have been sent from the United States for its prisoners of war and internees in Nippon, China, and the Southern Regions.

It may be recalled the Nippon steamer Hakusan Maru brought them to Vladivostok recently to be transmitted to war prisoners and internment camps in various parts of East Asia. It is understood the next shipments of these comfort packages will go to American war prisoners and internees in the Philippines and Southern Regions.

Pig Cholera In Penang

Owing to the prevalence of pig cholera in Penang, the importation of pigs from Penang into Syonan-to is prohibited, says an official statement issued by the City Authorities here today.

With a view to the prevention of the spread of the disease here pig rearers are requested to pay attention to the following: Keep pigs and pigsties in absolute cleanliness; all forage must be cooked; refrain from approaching others' pigsties and do not allow others to get near your own; if pig cholera is found inform Shokuhin-ka (Foodstuffs Department) of the Tokubetu-si immediately.

Greatest Battle Of Second World War In Offing; Americans Suffer Huge Losses In Men And Material

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Lisbon, Dec. 27 (Domei)—The large-scale battle in south-eastern Belgium and Central Luxembourg is increasing in violence, the German High Command announced, according to a dispatch received here. In the area north of Laroche a major tank battle developed yesterday in which 70 tanks of the Third and Seventh United States Tank Divisions were destroyed or captured, the Berlin communique said, adding that from the south-west and south the Americans continued vain attempts to disperse closely compressed formations around Bastogne.

Eisenhower's headquarters revealed that the two forward-most elements of German armoured units had reached Celles, only four miles from the Meuse River, and Ciney, 14 miles below Namur, but on Christmas night American forces in a counter-attack had thrown the Germans out of Celles and firmly held the town. It added that the German spearhead at Ciney was also slowed. A two-day-old Eisenhower headquarters' communique said that Von Rundstedt was trying hard to push toward the Antwerp supply road from his reinforced line along the Hotton-Marche Road.

The Associated Press meanwhile, in a dispatch last night, said there are growing indications that the German High Command had decided to risk the heart of the German army into the offensive and that "the greatest battle of the Second World War" is shaping up. The A.P. dispatch said Von Rundstedt still had substantial reserves, reserves thought impossible some months ago, and that if he commits them, the resultant action will strain every anti-Axis resource.

In Central Luxembourg new enemy attacks collapsed, the German High Command said. In violent air combats German fighters shot down 35 enemy planes over the Western Front, the Berlin communique said German long-distance weapons continued to shell London, Liege and Antwerp.

On the Eastern Front, despite the gallant defence of German troops, Soviet forces increased their penetration area toward the north-west and north of Budapest, the German communique said. It added that embittered fighting is going on at the west fringe of the city. Moscow dispatches said Red Army tanks and infantry have stabbed into the heart of the Hungarian capital.

German troops foiled enemy attempts to cross Lake Balaton. Large-scale Soviet attacks in the Courland region, in the northern sector of the Eastern Front, were again checked.

In Italy, German and Italian troops in a surprise attack in the area of Gallicano, threw back the 92nd American Infantry Division several kilometres south. German fighters and flak shot down a total of 61 of Anglo-American aircraft raiding Western Germany and Upper Silesia, the German communique said.

Aeroplane Production Now Hits New Record

Tokyo, Dec. 28 (Domei)—Unprecedented heights have been reached in the production of planes for our army and naval air forces since the Autumn of last year, according to Kiyoshi Goko, President of the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Company, in an interview with the Nippon Sangyo Keizai Shimbun. He said one factor contributing to this was the boost in production figures for aluminium. He added the fact that the aircraft production authorities have adopted a policy of actively undertaking the supply of basic industries connected with aircraft production with essential materials needed is also accountable for plane production increase.

He pointed out that formerly the production authorities thought it necessary to encourage and assist only companies directly engaged in war-plane production. Since the Government and people have realized that basic industries play a vital role in plane production and have given these industries more attention, production of aircraft has reached new heights, he asserted. He suggested decentralization as a means of insuring the maintenance of a high level of plane production, pointing out that production will not drop by decentralization but will tend to maintain the present upward trend.

Army, Navy Ministers' Reports Well Received

Tokyo, Dec. 28 (Domei)—All Metropolitan papers in their editorial columns this morning heartily welcomed the War and Navy Ministers' reports before yesterday's Diet session as the most candid statements on the war situation confronting the nation at the present stage, and also as another reassuring re-affirmation of their absolute conviction of our ultimate victory in this War of Greater East Asia. All comments were unanimous in pointing out that Field-Marshal Sugiyama and Admiral Yonai gave very frank reports on the vital stage into which the war in the Pacific has entered, but at the same time they pointed out to the entire nation where our way to final victory lies in the most re-assuring manner.

The Mainichi Shimbun in a typical editorial said Admiral Yonai's declaration that Nippon will continue to seek a "battle of decision" in the Philippines sector is the exact reaffirmation of Premier General Kuniaki Koiso's previous statement that the battle of the Philippines will be "the battle of decision" for Nippon and her allies in this war. The Navy Minister's declaration therefore made it entirely clear to the nation that our highest war leaders' determination to seek a decision in this theatre of war remains unshakable, the paper said.

14 Super Fortresses Downed, 27 Damaged In Raid Over Tokyo

Tokyo, Dec. 27 (Domei)—Fourteen enemy aircraft, including five probables, out of about 50 Mariana-based "Super Forts" which raided Tokyo this afternoon are so far known to have been bagged by Nippon air defence units, Dai Honyei revealed in a communique released at 7.00 p.m. In addition, 27 enemy raiders were damaged, the communique further disclosed.

The communique follows:

"Approximately 50 Mariana-based B-29's attacked Tokyo Metropolis this afternoon. War results ascertained up to 5.00 p.m. to have been scored by our intercepting forces are as follows: Shot down 14 (of which five are probables); damaged, 27. Two of the enemy aircraft downed were accounted for by body-crashing tactics.

"Our loss consisted of four planes which either self-blasted against enemy objectives or have not yet returned to base."

Retaliatory Raid On Halmahera Costly

At the Southern Pacific Front, Dec. 27 (Domei)—During the two days, Dec. 22 and 23, Nippon ground units shot down 22 and damaged another plane out of a total of more than 410 enemy fighters and bombers which raided Wassile and Gurua of Halmahera Island, in apparent retaliation for the relentless Nippon raids against the enemy airbase on Morotai Island.

Enemy planes shot down comprised three B-25's, seven Douglas A-20's, two P-38's, eight P-40's and two P-51's, while the plane damaged was a B-25.

Notice To Advertisers.

Indo Sinbun Sha Daily Publications New Advertisement Rates effective from 1st January, 2605:—

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$12/- per inch s/c. for Vernacular Papers.

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WANTED

One Hundred Applications are invited for the Azad School, Penang. Candidates must be between the ages of 18 and 30 years and possess educational qualifications of at least Standard Five in English. All applications must be forwarded to the Indian Independence League, Syonan Branch.

DONATIONS TO AZAD HIND FUND

Official receipts are being issued by I.I.L., Syonan Branch, for all donations made at the Public Meetings held on the 17th and 24th December, 2604, and also for contributions made through the L.A.C. Members towards the Azad Hind Fund. As addresses are not available donors are requested to call at the Syonan Branch and obtain receipts. Receipts for donations paid through L.A.C. Members will be distributed by the Divisional Chiefs. Donors are requested to report to the Member-in-Charge, Finance Department, I.I.L. Syonan Branch, before the 15th January, 2605, if receipts are not obtained by that date.

Finance Secretary,
I.I.L. Rear Headquarters.,
Syonan.
Syonan, 27th Dec., 2604.

SYONAN TOKUBETU SI NOTICE No. 158

Claims for Refund of Immovable Property Tax

Notice is hereby given that Claims for Refund of Immovable Property Tax which has been paid to the Syonan Tokubetu-si on the houses reported as vacant for periods of more than one continuous month during:—

(a) the year Syowa 19 for properties situated within the former Rural Board Area, and

(b) the 2nd half year Syowa 19 for properties situated within the former Municipal Limits; must be sent in to Zaimu Katyo between 1st January and 31st January, Syowa 20.

2. No application will be considered unless full payment of the immovable property tax has been duly made.

3. No application will be entertained if received after the 31st January, Syowa 20.

4. Application for refunds should be made on forms which may be obtained from Zaimu Ka, Hyoka Kakari (Assessor's Office), Syonan Tokubetu-si.

5. An acknowledgment will be sent for every claim received.

SYONAN TOKUBETU SI TYO.
28th Dec., Syowa 19.

We Wish A Happy New Year To All Our Customers And Friends.

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